

# The War Whoop Weekly Bulletin

Rotary  
Club



Kansas City, KS

Meeting Location: Meetings presently held via Zoom.  
Office: P.O. Box 171384, Kansas City, KS 66117  
kckrotary@gmail.com

Websites: Club: [www.rotarydowntownkck.org](http://www.rotarydowntownkck.org), District: [www.rotary5710.org](http://www.rotary5710.org), International: [www.rotary.org](http://www.rotary.org)

Volume 83

December 17, 2021

No. 25

**LAST TUESDAY AT ROTARY** - Pinch hitting for President Jen Wewers, Vice President Karole Bradford opened the meeting. Pat Crilly led members in the Pledge of Allegiance and provided the invocation, reflecting on the time of Advent. In the spirit of the season, Scott Kaufmann then led members in singing "We Wish You a Merry Christmas."

Vice President Karole introduced Melissa Sieben, program chair for December and our speaker today, who shared a presentation on UG projects pertaining to the Kansas River. In her role as Assistant County Administrator, Melissa is responsible for various County and City departments, including Community Development, Planning + Urban Design, Public Works, Buildings and Logistics, Transportation, and the Wyandotte County Historical Museum. As part of this portfolio, Melissa has been very involved in the current Kansas River projects.

The UG is in the midst of providing improvements to 17 miles of the Kansas River levees. Much of this work is being accomplished as a result of Federal funding received a few years ago. Prior to the influx of Federal monies, the levee and Kansas River improvements were part of a 25 year plan. Being able to leverage Federal funding has allowed the work to progress much more quickly. For example, the Argentine Pump Station cost approximately \$34 million, with only around \$1 million of UG funds.

Included in these Kansas River improvements are work on pump stations, stormwater management within the various river and stream basins, and levee improvements. The Argentine and Armourdale pump stations are completed or underway, and a new sluice gate has been installed.

Significant improvements to the levee trail network are included as part of the levee improvement work. Some levee areas are being raised by several feet to provide more protection from flooding. Reminding everyone that KCK extends to the east side of the Kansas River near downtown, Melissa shared that several apartment buildings are being planned on the riverfront on the east side of the Kansas River. Future development plans include the Armourdale Trailhead Park, which will be located across the Kansas River from HyVee Arena. This project will include a dock for rowers and riverside improvements which include an amphitheater and a boardwalk.

**NEXT WEEK AT ROTARY** - Our speaker will be our Amy Loch, Director of the Wyandotte County Historical Museum, who will be updating us about what is going on at the museum. Melissa Sieben is the program chair for the month.

Elections for next year's officers and directors are scheduled to be held at next week's Board meeting.

**Calendar notice:** The Club will not hold its weekly meeting on **December 28, 2021.**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

If you are cleaning out your closets, the **Wyandot BHN - Winter Warm-up** could put your donations of new and gently used adult and children's winter coats, scarves, hats, gloves, and blankets, as well as NEW socks, to good use! Cash donations are also accepted. The coats and accessories will be provided to individuals served by Wyandot Center/Frank Williams Outreach Center, PACES, RSI, and Kim Wilson Housing.

At its December Board meeting, the **Board voted to return to billing quarterly for lunches.** The lunch billing charges will be discounted at first and then increased in stages as we navigate our return to in-person meetings and investigate lunch options. The January billing statements sent to members will include a quarterly luncheon charge of \$65, which will be increased later in 2022 as we determine the costs of the meeting space and future catering costs.

As you consider your year-end contributions, don't forget about our own foundation, **The Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Presidents' Foundation.** Contributions to our foundation are used to fund our scholarship program and other good works throughout the year. Thanks for all your past contributions and work on behalf of KCK Rotary and The Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Presidents' Foundation!



## *Where the Gate to Kansas Swings Open*

The Kansas City, Kansas Rotary Club was organized on November 2, 1915, and received its charter as Club No. 195 in January 1916. Its members take pride in more than 100 years of Rotary service to the community and to international fellowship. From this Club have come five District Governors and two Directors of Rotary International. The Club's history is as rich as that of the community it represents.

Following the Lewis and Clark expedition which camped at the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri rivers on June 26, 1804, in present day Kansas City, Kansas, this area became an important center for fur trappers. In the following years, many Indian tribes were relocated here from the East. In 1842 the Wyandot Indians acquired land here and founded a town. During this period, and for the next five decades, this area became the main gateway to the inviting majesty of the sprawling Kansas Prairie and the American West. This was where the frontier began. Pioneers found river transportation, outfitters, and the beginning of the Santa Fe and Oregon Trails. After the covered wagons, came major trunk railroads and barge lines.

In 1886, Kansas City, Kansas received its charter as an incorporated city, combining the towns of Wyandot, Argentine, and Armourdale. (Rosedale was added in 1922.) Kansas City, Kansas is the site of the first industrial park in the United States, home of the prestigious University of Kansas Medical Center, and the location of the National Agricultural Hall of Fame and of the nationally recognized Kansas Speedway.

Near the geographical and population centers of the contiguous United States, Kansas City, Kansas is in the temperate latitudes at an elevation of 726 feet above sea level. The average rainfall is 35 inches. The average mean temperature ranges from 30° F in January to 80° F in July. The lowest recorded temperature was -23° F on December 23, 1989, and the highest was 113° F on August 14, 1936. Our city's population of 145,000 and area of 155 square miles rank it 158th among cities in the United States.

Welcome to Kansas City, Kansas Rotary and the vibrant community it represents.

# ***Service Above Self***

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## **SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**

### **WHERE NEARBY TO MAKE UP ATTENDANCE**

#### MONDAY

Bonner Springs (11:45 am) ----- Twister Bar & Grill, 13100 Kansas Ave.  
Overland Park (Noon) ----- Overland Park Chamber, 9001 W. 110<sup>th</sup>, Bldg #150

#### TUESDAY

Gladstone (7:00 am) ----- Fairview Christian Church, 1800 N.E. 65th  
Western Johnson County (5:30 pm) ----- Blue Moose, 10064 Woodland Rd., Lenexa

#### WEDNESDAY

Overland Park South (7:15 am) ----- Deer Creek Country Club, 7000 W. 133<sup>rd</sup>  
Leavenworth (Noon) ----- Riverfront Community Center, 123 S. Esplanade  
KCI, Missouri (Noon) ----- Granite City Pub, 8461 NW Prairie View Rd.  
Shawnee Mission (Noon) ----- Sylvester Powell Community Ctr, 6200 Martway, Mission  
Olathe (Noon) ----- American Legion, 410 E. Dennis Ave.  
Kansas City South, Missouri (Noon) ----- RC's Restaurant, 330 E. 135<sup>th</sup> St.  
Johnson County-Sunset (5:15 pm) ----- Hilton Garden Inn Olathe, 119<sup>th</sup> & I-35  
Waldo-Brookside, Missouri (5:30 pm) ----- Waldo Pizza, 7433 Broadway

#### THURSDAY

Johnson County (7:15 am) ----- Holiday Inn, 8787 Reeder St., OPKS  
Leawood (7:15 am) ----- Hereford House, 5001 Town Center Dr.  
Village West (7:30 am) ----- Providence MC/Cafeteria Conference Rm, 8929 Parallel, KCK  
Gardner (7:30 am) ----- Gardner Community Ctr., 128 E. Park  
Santa Fe Trail (7:30 am) ----- Mid-Am Nazarene U, 2030 E. College Way, Olathe  
Kansas City, Missouri (Noon) ----- The Gallery, 61 E. 14<sup>th</sup> Street, KCMO

#### FRIDAY

Desoto (7:00 am) ----- Desoto United Methodist Church, 8760 Kill Creek Road  
Shawnee (7:15 am) ----- Shawnee Town Hall, 11600 Johnson Drive  
Plaza, Missouri (7:15 am) ----- Grand Street Cafe, 4740 Grand Ave.  
North Kansas City, Missouri (Noon) ----- NKC Parks & Rec., 1201 Clark Fergusson Dr.  
Parkville, Missouri (Noon) ----- Park University Underground, Distance Learning Ctr.  
Lenexa (Noon) ----- Lakeview Village, Southridge Bldg., 14001 W. 92<sup>nd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor

Please see the Secretary for the world directory of all Rotary Club meeting times, days, and places.

### **2021-2022 Board of Directors**

#### **Officers**

Jen Wewers

President

Karole Bradford

Vice President

Greg Shondell

Treasurer

Rosemary Podrebarac

Secretary

Jim Knight

Sergeant at Arms

Scott Martens

Past President

#### **Directors**

Ashley Adorante

David Bluford

Jay Dunlap

Mark Dupree

John Freshnock

Phil Gibbs

Todd Jordan

Jim Knight

Melissa Sieben